

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: The warm and dry weather last week allowed growers to get out into the fields and get plenty of work done. High temperatures ranged from 58 degrees in Crescent City, up to 87 degrees in Medford and Grants Pass. Low temperatures ranged from 22 degrees in Christmas Valley, up to 47 degrees in Bandon. Precipitation was scarce this past week and was noticeable with short soil moisture levels. The largest accumulation was reported at the Detroit Lake station with 0.91 inches, while the second largest accumulation was reported at Heppner with only 0.39 inches. Fourteen out of the forty three stations reported no precipitation at all.

Field Crops: Dry and warm weather conditions this past week allowed for good grass and alfalfa hay cutting throughout the State. Hop plants in Marion County were trained and rapidly climbing the twine strings. Growers were concerned for spring field crops due to lack of moisture. Some areas of the Willamette Valley showed dryness. Lack of rain has taken its toll on winter wheat fields in north central areas. Wheat yields in Morrow County are expected to be lower than first anticipated. Stripe rust has also damaged the hard red winter wheat variety Finley. Barley emergence was nearly complete. Winter wheat was reported to be 55 percent headed, ahead of last year and the five year average. Statewide grain crops were reported to be in mostly good condition this past week.

Vegetables: Asparagus, peas, shallots, early garlic, and various greens were available at Willamette Valley Farmer's Markets. Washington County bush snap beans and sweet corn were up; planting was nearly complete. Vegetable seeding was nearly complete in Douglas County, although the cold nights have made vegetable emergence and growth slow.

Fruits and Nuts: Strawberries were ready and available at Farmer's Markets throughout the Willamette Valley. Blackberries continued to form. Yields for tree fruits in the northern Willamette Valley are expected to be down significantly due to freezing temperatures in early April, followed by cool temperatures for the remainder of the month. Prunes are expected to be hit hardest, although losses to tart cherries are being roughly estimated at 90% and losses to sweet cherries at 60%. Hazelnut growers were completing their foliar boron sprays on an average looking crop. Orchardists and grape growers in Douglas County started irrigating within the past two weeks, about three weeks earlier than normal. Fungicide spraying continued despite the dry period as low morning temperatures were causing heavy dew in the crop canopies. Heavy June drop was occurring in peaches, plums, cherries, pears, and apples as pollination was good. Southern Oregon apples, pears, and grapes continued to look good. Fruit was expected to set soon.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nursery shipping season to the eastern states was slowing down. Nurseries were busy with new plantings and sales of balled and burlaped plants and potted shrubs. The weather has been hot enough that irrigation has been started at most nurseries. Retail nurseries and greenhouses were selling lots of plants to home gardeners. Christmas tree growers were spraying for weeds.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Pastures in western Oregon continued to show good growth. Soil moisture was beginning to dry down rapidly and irrigation was turned on about three weeks earlier than normal in some of these areas. Most rangeland continued to need rain. Producers were busy working herds with some preparing to move cattle into the higher range areas. Livestock were in good condition throughout the State.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 05/27/07

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	6	38	54	2
Subsoil	5	25	70	0

Crop Condition-Week Ending 05/27/07

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	7	32	57	4
Spring wheat	0	0	42	57	1
Barley	0	0	17	82	1
Range and pasture	1	8	34	43	14

Crop Progress-Week Ending 05/27/07

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, first cutting	47	-	13	3
Winter wheat headed	55	21	38	47
Barley emerged	98	89	85	83
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.9	6.3	3.8	5.4

WESTERN OREGON

COOS/CURRY: Temperatures were warmer this week than last week, with only a trace of precipitation on Monday in Coos County. Pastures are growing and early high moisture haylage in wraps continues to be harvested this past week, with producers gearing up for standard hay cut/bale operations as early as next week. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 46.9 degrees, 3.13 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 62.89 degrees, 5.46 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.01 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought years 2002-2004) average of 0.52 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation stands at 53.17 inches, 6.45 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through May is 55.97 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry) Low temperature for the period was 46.22 degrees, 1.05 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 71.6 degrees, 1.75 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.0 inches compared to a 5-year average (including drought years 2002-2004) of 1.12 inches. Current weather year precipitation stands at 74.6 inches, 1.34 inches below the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation through May is 70.81 inches.

DOUGLAS: Dryness in May is following a dry April and is taking soil moisture reserves to late June levels already. Orchards, vineyards, pastures, and row crops started irrigating within the past two weeks. This is about three weeks earlier than normal. Orchards and vineyards continued to spray fungicides, despite the dry period as low morning temperatures were causing heavy dew in the crop canopies. Heavy June drop is occurring in peaches, plums, cherries, pears, and apples as pollination was good, putting too much fruit on the trees. Vegetable crop seeding is nearing completion although the cold nights have made vegetable emergence and growth slow.

JACKSON: Almost all grain is now planted. Haying is well underway, both grass and alfalfa. Also, some oats and peas are being cut for hay and silage. The warmer weather is getting grain crops up and going. Apples and pears are looking good. There hasn't been any apparent thinning yet, but maybe after the normal June drop. Vine grapes are showing good growth. Fruit will be setting soon. Plenty of field preparation on the commercial operations, and lots of planting is still ongoing. Greenhouses are still quite busy with new vegetable and flower starts. Nurseries are busy with new plantings, and still lots of sales of mostly balled and potted shrubs and plants. Livestock are looking good with lots of green pastures. It is time for shots and marking those ready for a move to the higher ranges. This was a good week for outdoor work. Daytime temperatures were pleasant and dry. We have been having evening wind that is drying out the soil.

LANE: Lots of hay is being cut and baled.

LINN/BENTON: The weather has been beautiful here in the Willamette Valley. Grass seed crops are getting ready to pollinate and the strawberry crops are ready for picking. The valley floor has enough moisture to see the fall planted crops through to harvest, but the spring planted crops still need moisture. The foot hills around the valley are showing some areas of drying out already.

MARION: The weather was nice all week; good for putting up hay. The week started with cool nights and overcast days. Then the nights and days became clearer and warmer through the later part of the week. Hops fields have twine strung and the hops plants are trained and rapidly climbing the strings. Weather has also been good for field work, however the soil is drying and irrigation is being applied in nurseries and to some field crops.

POLK: Temperatures have been cool, with some light precipitation this past week. Grass seed is ahead of schedule, along with the cherry drop. Due to the lack of moisture so far this spring, some have chosen to irrigate grass seed.

WASHINGTON: Prune, cherry, apple, pear, and peach producers are reporting large losses due to untimely rains in the early spring. Crimson clover is in full bloom, while producers are indicating that red and crimson clover yields will be down. Hay activity for first cutting is beginning. Sweet corn is nearing the end of planting. Irrigation of all crops is due to lack of rainfall. Grass seed is filling. Filbert crops look to be on track for an average yield. Grass for seed is heading. Weed eradication continues, while field corn has emerged. Strawberries are present at farmer's markets and roadside stands. Blackberries are forming. Sweet corn and bush beans are growing well. Greenhouses and nurseries are busy moving potted plants to new fields. Buffalo calves are doing well and other beef animals are looking good. High temperature of 83 degrees with a low of 38 degrees.

YAMHILL: Lots of hay was down this past week with a little rain on it Wednesday night. Red clover silage is in high gear. There are a lot of reports of damage to fruit crops from early April freezes and cool temperatures during mid to late April. Prunes took the largest hit while there was also roughly a 90% loss to tart cherries, a 60% loss to sweet cherries, and heavy losses to early variety apples. Hazelnut growers are completing their foliar boron sprays.

EASTERN OREGON

KLAMATH: Warm weather continues. Some evenings have been near freezing. More hay is being dropped. Irrigation continues.

MALHEUR: Weather has been dry and temperatures warmer than normal at weeks end. Lots of hay is down. Cultivating and spraying of row crops continues. Some showers were received over the weekend, but not enough rain to slow haying operations. Cheat grass is turning red.

MORROW: The lack of rain is taking its toll on the winter wheat crop. Fields that looked like they might yield 60 to 70 bushels/acre two weeks ago, now have a yield potential of approximately 40 bushels/acre. The hard red winter wheat variety

Finley has been damaged from stripe rust. Most fields of Finley have been sprayed. Alfalfa hay is mostly cut and in the stack in the north end of the county. As we move up in elevation, harvest is progressing.

SHERMAN: Field tillage continues where needed, but increased chemical fallow means less diesel burning. Grain in the north end has headed out and is close in the southern end. The Crop Hop tour attracted about 45-50 participants.

WALLOWA: Not much change from last week. Some moisture received has helped some dry land crops. No change in range conditions.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: May 27, 2007 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	43	68	56	+3	40	+15	0.11	-0.52	3	67.53	6.37	110	159
Bandon ⁸	47	63	55	+3	37	+16	0.02	-0.54	2	53.95	-1.79	97	146
Crescent City	41	58	52	-3	15	-14	0.02	-0.57	1	56.49	-5.74	91	111
Florence	37	71	54	+0	30	+1	0.07	-0.72	2	81.68	10.23	114	133
North Bend	43	63	55	+0	36	+6	0.01	-0.56	1	58.65	-1.33	98	124
Tillamook	40	70	55	+3	39	+18	0.15	-0.80	2	51.60	-29.95	63	147
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	39	78	58	+2	58	+12	-	-0.49	-	39.80	2.30	106	132
Corvallis	35	76	56	-1	41	-1	0.05	-0.37	1	45.28	5.42	114	129
Detroit Lake ⁸	39	79	57	+6	57	+35	0.91	0.21	2	84.26	21.47	134	149
Eugene	32	75	56	-2	43	-8	0.03	-0.43	2	37.83	-8.28	82	117
Hillsboro	38	77	57	+0	50	+4	0.08	-0.27	2	33.51	-0.85	98	127
McMinnville	37	78	58	+2	60	+11	0.06	-0.34	2	34.56	-6.17	85	129
Portland	46	78	59	+1	65	+5	0.21	-0.21	2	32.46	-0.40	99	136
Salem	39	78	59	+3	62	+18	0.03	-0.39	2	38.78	2.52	107	118
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	39	87	63	+3	93	+19	-	-0.23	-	28.52	-1.14	96	90
Medford	38	87	64	+4	97	+28	-	-0.21	-	16.79	-0.59	97	88
Roseburg	42	82	61	+3	76	+17	-	-0.28	-	29.88	-0.80	97	104
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	35	79	56	+4	46	+18	0.24	-0.04	2	12.44	0.74	106	91
Echo ⁸	40	85	60	-2	73	-5	0.03	-0.11	1	7.93	0.12	102	90
Heppler	35	79	58	+0	57	+5	0.39	0.10	3	12.00	0.21	102	98
Hermiston	37	85	62	+1	84	+6	0.02	-0.12	1	7.28	-0.53	93	80
Madras ⁸	31	80	56	-1	48	+6	0.01	-0.20	1	5.48	-3.06	64	76
Moro	37	80	57	+2	49	+11	0.03	-0.15	1	10.51	0.84	109	78
Parkdale ⁸	34	76	55	-3	40	-11	0.07	-0.14	1	33.66	4.48	115	98
Pendleton	42	81	60	+0	71	+3	0.10	-0.11	2	9.10	-1.28	88	84
Prairie City ⁸	31	80	56	-1	48	+6	0.01	-0.20	1	5.48	-3.06	64	76
The Dalles	42	83	62	+6	84	+40	0.03	-0.16	1	12.27	1.24	111	73
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	33	79	55	+5	44	+25	-	-0.24	-	14.67	0.54	104	93
Bend	29	79	52	+0	29	+7	-	-0.21	-	9.03	-0.62	94	65
Burns	24	78	53	+1	39	+15	-	-0.25	-	7.73	-0.21	97	76
Christmas Valley ⁸	22	80	50	-6	23	-15	0.01	-0.21	1	4.72	-5.40	47	69
Klamath Falls	29	79	54	-2	39	+4	-	-0.21	-	9.00	-2.73	77	71
Klamath Falls ⁸	30	79	54	-1	40	+5	-	-0.21	-	10.06	-1.39	88	89
Lakeview	27	75	52	-2	31	+4	-	-0.35	-	3.15	-10.22	24	44
Lorella ⁸	27	79	53	-3	32	-3	-	-0.21	-	8.89	-2.84	76	82
Redmond	25	83	55	+2	43	+17	-	-0.19	-	4.10	-2.62	61	49
Worden ⁸	28	78	53	-3	31	-4	-	-0.21	-	7.43	-4.30	63	89
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	29	76	52	-3	27	-5	0.32	0.00	2	4.28	-3.49	55	74
Joseph	31	69	48	-2	14	+4	0.37	-0.12	3	11.96	-8.91	57	99
La Grande	36	75	55	-3	40	-3	0.17	-0.18	2	6.80	-7.46	48	66
Union	34	78	54	+0	39	+8	0.19	-0.21	3	8.12	-2.31	78	83
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	39	84	61	-2	78	-6	0.07	-0.14	2	5.09	-3.11	62	63
Rome	29	84	56	-3	56	+3	-	-0.21	-	2.55	-3.73	41	55

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2007: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2006.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.